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PATENT

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED  
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 3679

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.: 10/058,952  
Applicant(s): Peter Holemans et al.  
Filed: January 28, 2002  
Art Unit: 3679  
Examiner: Gregory John Binda  
Title: DAMAGE TOLERANT SHAFT  
AND ASSOCIATED FABRICATION METHOD

Confirmation No.: 4630

Docket No.: 038190/239691  
Customer No.: 00826

**RECEIVED**

JAN 14 2004

**GROUP 3600**

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 20, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 8 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 15 of this paper.